Application No. 09/974,645 Response to OA of 02/03/2005

Remarks

In the present response, five claims (1, 4, 11, 14, 20) are amended. No new matter is added. Claims 1-23 are presented for examination.

I. Claim Rejections: 35 USC § 102

Claims 1-23 are rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by USPN 5,577165 (hereinafter Takebayashi). This rejection is traversed.

A proper rejection of a claim under 35 U.S.C. §102 requires that a single prior art reference disclose each element of the claim. See MPEP § 2131, also, W.L. Gore & Assoc., Inc. v. Garlock, Inc., 721 F.2d 1540, 220 U.S.P.Q. 303, 313 (Fed. Cir. 1983). Since Takebayashi neither teaches nor suggests each element in claims 1-23, these claims are allowable over Takebayashi.

Each independent claim recites numerous limitations that are not taught or suggested in Takebayashi. By way of example, each independent claim 1, 11, and 20 recites "wherein at least one meaning token encodes one or more labels identifying one or more respective application-specific categories for use by an application program." Applicant submits that Takebayashi does not teach or suggest this recitation. Nowhere does Takebayashi teach or suggest that a meaning token encodes a label that identifies one or more application-specific categories for use by an application program.

For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully requests the allowance of independent claims 1, 11, and 20. The dependent claims, depending from these independent claims, are allowable for at least the same reasons.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the above, Applicant believes claims 1-23 are in condition for allowance. Allowance of these claims is respectfully requested.

Any inquiry regarding this Amendment and Response should be directed to Philip S. Lyren at Telephone No. (281) 514-8236, Facsimile No. (281) 514-8332. In addition, all correspondence should continue to be directed to the following address:

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Respectfully submitted

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8

The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper or papers, as described herein, is being transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office facsimile number 703-872-9306 on this 3706 day of May, 2005.

Name: Be Henry